

Château GRAND-PUY DUCASSE

Grand Cru Classé 1855, Pauillac



Vintage 2015



History

Three large plots in the best parts of Pauillac form the vineyard of this classified growth. This unusual configuration is a direct inheritance from the estate's founder, Pierre Ducasse, an eminent lawyer. In the 18th century he gave a single name to a fine vineyard holding, which was put together through inheritance and purchases.

When he died in 1797, his son, Pierre, inherited a 60-hectare exploitation, named Ducasse-Grand-Puy-Artigues-Arnaud, of which two third were planted with vines. The estate was classified in 1855, under the name of Artigues Arnaud.

Terroirs

Garonne gravels and silica, typical of Pauillac, for the Cabernet Sauvignon, and sandy gravels for the Merlot.

The vineyard consists of three large plots in the commune of Pauillac. The vines border those of Mouton, Lafite and Pontet-Canet to the North. In their central part, they cover part of the Bourdieu of Grand Puy, and, at their southern extremity, the Saint-Lambert plateau.

Appellation

Pauillac

Surface of the vineyard

41 hectares

Planting density

10 000 feet / ha

Average age of the vines

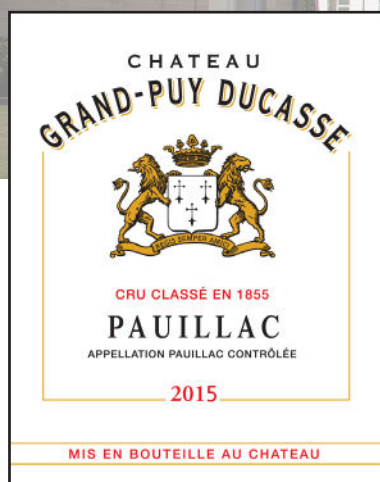
34 ans

Culture management

Parcel management of soil and vineyard. Certified sustainable farming. Involvement in the EMS (Environmental Management System)

Blend

60 % Cabernet Sauvignon 40 % Merlot



Climatic conditions

In 2015, the climate context was fully different from 2014. Everything was fine until September for all of our Bordeaux properties besides a serious drought that worried us in early August. Thankfully, relieving rains came at the rescue of some hydro-strained grape vines.

Ripening phases

Bud Break: around April 16th
Flowering: around May 28th
Ripening: around August 3rd

Harvest dates

Merlot: from September 17th to 30th
Cabernet Sauvignon: from September 30th to October 9th

Yields

50 hl/ha

Winemaking

After manual harvesting in crates and an initial sorting in the vineyard, the grapes were sorted again using the latest generation optical sorting system. Vinification was carried out in stainless steel temperature controlled tanks.

For some of the batches, malolactic fermentation was carried out in new barrels. 40% of new barrels for this wine.

Production

123 000 bottles

Tasting Note

The wine shows a deep rubis colour, the 1st nose is subtle and expresses an aromatic intensity that evolves quickly after aeration. Then, the wine reveals black currant, cassis and cherry notes with delicate aromas of mocha coffee and liquorice.

The attack and medium-body are sweet and unctuous, follow-up with powerful tannins which brings to this Pauillac a well-balanced and elegant length.

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Team

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